

# BRAC 2005

Portland KC-135 mission selected for realignment



## Chief's Corner

### Are you ready for promotion?

by Chief Master Sgt. Loren Chapman  
939th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron

Time and time again I hear people wondering why they haven't been promoted. There are normally one or more reasons. The most common is failure to complete mandatory Professional Military Education. The second most common reason is because they are not in a Unit Manning Document position enabling promotion beyond the grade already held.

Let's talk about PME requirements first. Air Force Instruction 36-2502 (Chapter four, table 4.2) identifies PME requirements which must be completed prior to promotion eligibility.

For promotion to staff sergeant, completion of the noncommissioned officer preparatory course, along with attainment of your 5-skill level, time-in-grade (12 months), and time-in-service (four years) requirements must be met prior to being eligible for promotion.

Promotion to technical sergeant requires no special PME completion. However you must have attained your 7-skill level, completed 18 months time-in-grade as a staff sergeant and completed five years time-in-service.

Promotion to master sergeant requires completion of the NCO Academy course (either in-residence or via correspondence). You must have 24 months time-in-grade as a technical sergeant and eight years time-in-service.

Promotion to senior master sergeant requires completion of the Senior NCO Academy course (either in-residence or via correspondence). It also requires 24 months time-in-grade as a master sergeant and 14 years time-in-service.

The second reason for non-promotion is sometimes beyond your control, or beyond your supervisor's control. Units are allocated limited numbers of authorized positions based on Major Command and gaining MAJCOM manning requirements. Each of those positions has an authorized grade attached to it based on Unit Type Code manning requirements. When a specific Air Force Specialty Code is fully manned there is nowhere to move people deserving of

promotion until a like AFSC position is vacated. Supervisors have the responsibility to request movement of qualified personnel via AF Form 2096 through the 939th Military Personnel Flight when positions are vacated.

Sometimes people cannot be promoted even though they "filled all their squares." There are a myriad of rules MPF must follow and apply to all personnel and promotion actions. Don't shoot the messenger; they really are trying to "do it by the book"!

What can you do to ensure you are ready for promotion? First, complete your PME as early as possible in your career path. Don't wait until you "get into that slot" for your next promotion to start taking your PME. Doing so only delays your future promotion opportunities. By delaying when you sew on that new stripe delays the date your time-in-grade eligibility for the next stripe begins. Read AFI 36-2502 chapter four thoroughly. Talk with your supervisor. Most importantly, understand your responsibilities for your career path. Be aware, be knowledgeable, and be ready!!!

#### *To the Men and Women of the 939th*

*There are countless experiences which I am grateful for as I approach the end of my military career. The military has been such an important part of who I am and what I've become.*

*I have met such incredible people—people who have given so much to their community and their country. One of the most gratifying lessons I've learned is the secret of living. That secret is based on a principle of giving. I've found the more people you are willing to serve, the more fulfilling your life will become.*

*As members of the military, you're all willing to put your lives on the line if necessary. I will miss all of my comrades in arms. It has been my honor to have served with all of you.*

Chief Master Sgt. A. Dennis Paul  
83rd Aerial Port Squadron

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We may also be reached via telephone at 503-335-4619, via fax at 503-335-4210, or via e-mail at karen.magnus@portland.af.mil.

939 ARW Commander

Col. William Flanigan

Chief of Public Affairs

Maj. James R. Wilson

Public Affairs Specialist

Ms. Ruby Zarzyczny

Tech. Sgt. Paul Perrsons

Senior Airman Travis Carter

## Conference celebrates advancements of women in aviation

by Master Sgt. Ed Angle  
939th ARW Command Section

I was selected to represent the 939th Air Refueling Wing at the 16th annual Women in Aviation International Conference in Dallas, Texas recently. If I had to choose one word to describe the conference it would be “passionate.” When someone is passionate about something or someone, you can see it in their eyes and it is expressed in their actions.

The WAI conference is an excellent opportunity for the Air Force to recruit highly motivated individuals who desire careers in aviation. The women who attended the WAI conference were extremely passionate about careers in aviation, and I don’t think there would be too much that could stop them from achieving their goals. The networking opportunities for the individuals attending the conference were unbelievable. Every aspect of the aviation industry (military, airlines, courier services, maintenance, etc.) were present at this conference, working hard to express their particular way of life.

Participants heard reflective stories from current female Air Force pilots who had attended the conference in years prior and are now living the life they so longed for at one time. It was quite visible these women possessed a strong desire to pursue careers in aviation. They didn’t appear to care about the trivial aspects of life, but lived, ate, and breathed aviation.

Individually, this conference was a true learning experience, both on the history of women in aviation, and a look into the future for women in aviation. I would highly recommend it to anyone who has the opportunity to attend, particularly females in the wing who aspire to become pilots.

## Questions for the Chief

*Editor’s Note: A member of the public affairs staff recently sat down with the 939th Air Refueling Wing’s new Command Chief Master Sergeant. The following transcript outlines some of the topics that were discussed.*

*Q: The 939th held a ceremony to formally induct you as the wing’s command chief—something never done before in the Air Force Reserve Command. What did that mean to you?*

A: I was humbled not only by the ceremony, but also by the degree of importance given to the position. I never imagined that I would one day become a Command Chief. Now that I am, I feel a sense of responsibility to maintain a higher standard.

*Q: Most everyone in the unit is familiar with the title of Command Chief. However, some may not know the responsibilities that come with the job. What are your primary duties as command chief?*

A: As Command Chief, I serve as the installation functional manager for the first sergeants. I serve as a liaison between the commander and the enlisted force. I must monitor compliance with Air Force standards of conduct, performance and appearance.

The commander relies on me to keep him apprised of any issues affecting the enlisted members of the wing.

*Q: What are your goals as the 939th’s Command Chief Master Sergeant?*

A: My first goal is to bring a senior noncommissioned officer leadership class to the 939th. We have a terrific core of senior NCO’s here, and I have already heard from many that they would love to have a senior NCO leadership class taught here so more of our own could partake in the training.

I feel the knowledge and skills gained from a class such as this



Chief Steinbach

would provide great benefit to the senior enlisted force and have every confidence that we will have a class here soon.

*Q: What are the top two issues or challenges facing the enlisted members of the 939th ARW?*

A: The first challenge is getting our members to understand the 939th is as much a part of the War on Terrorism as any other military unit, active or reserve.

To that end, we need to do whatever is necessary to prepare our men and women to perform their duties to the level expected of us. Whether it’s an overseas deployment or annual tour stateside, our reservists need to understand they are a vital part in the protection of their country and ultimately—their family. The recently introduced mandatory “Warrior Skills” training on UTA Saturdays will aid in this effort.

Secondly, we need to ensure our reservists are upgraded to the appropriate skill level within required timeframes. Many demands are being made on our reservists; warrior skills, ancillary training, Information Assurance, force protection, etc., and yet there is only so much time to do them all. Our young Airmen are going to have to accept the responsibility of increasingly more home study of [Career Development Courses] to help facilitate their skill-level upgrade.



# BRAC report suggests realignment for 939th

❑ 939 ARW commander: “No one will be left behind...if mission is realigned”

By Maj. James R. Wilson  
939th ARW Public Affairs Office

The Defense Department recommended major changes for the 939th Air Refueling Wing in its Base Realignment and Closure report which was released May 13.

The current proposal would move four of the unit's KC-135 aircraft to Tinker Air Force Base, Okla., and another four airplanes to Forbes Field Air Guard Station in Kansas.

In total, the Pentagon is recommending closure for 10 installations and realignment for 62 others as part of a comprehensive reshaping of the Air Force infrastructure.

“The BRAC announcement has major ramifications for the 939th,” Col. William Flanigan, 939th ARW commander, said in a meeting with unit members immediately after the recommendations were made public.

“This is the first step in this process,” he added, alluding to the visits that must now take place by the independent BRAC Commission.

The site visits are the main forum by which BRAC commissioners determine whether closure criteria were applied correctly by the Pentagon while putting its list together.

BRAC commissioners who visited the 939th ARW were the Honorable James Bilbray, former Nevada Congressman, and the Honorable Philip Coyle, senior advisor to the President of the Center for Defense Information. Both commissioners met with the 939th ARW commander and other senior leaders from the unit to learn more about the wing's mission. The commissioners were also seeking to pinpoint local ramifications of the DoD recommendations and whether the BRAC criteria was applied correctly.



*Members of the 939th Air Refueling Wing listen to remarks from Colonel Flanigan on the future of the wing at Portland International Airport.*



Photos by Maj. James R. Wilson

*Col. William Flanigan, 939th Air Refueling Wing commander, addresses members of the wing concerning the proposal for the wing as outlined in 2005 Base Re-alignment and Closure report.*

“The commission understands the 939th's mission and what we contribute to the nation's defense,” said Colonel Flanigan. “Ultimately, the commissioners will have to decide if they feel moving and restructuring the 939th is what's best for the Air Force long term.”

Other changes outlined in the report include moving the 939th Expeditionary Combat Support “package” to Vandenberg AFB, Calif. The wing's ECS capability consists primarily of members in the 939th Mission Support Group.

The realignment proposal would transfer all functions currently performed by the 939th at Portland to other units beginning in Fiscal Year 2008 (or October 2007).

“I will do everything within my power to help take care of you,” said Colonel Flanigan. “No one will be left behind. If our mission is realigned, I want each of you to know we will have programs to help you get through this transition. There will be career options and opportunities for you.”

The BRAC Commission has until early fall to analyze data and make changes to the report if necessary. Their findings will be compiled and sent to the President on Sept. 8.

Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld explained the BRAC process is a vital step in ensuring the military has resources necessary to confront “new demands of the war against extremism and other evolving challenges in the world.”

Since the recommendations became public, many people have asked why the department is closing bases in a time of war. “The answer is because the changes are essential in helping us win in this conflict,” Secretary Rumsfeld said. *(The American Forces Press Service contributed to this article)*

# Base Realignment and Closure timeline

Below is a brief summary of what happens next in the Base Realignment and Closure process.

**Spring/Summer:** BRAC commission holds regional public hearings around the country.

**Sept. 8:** BRAC commission must send its recommendations to the President

**Sept. 23:** The President must approve or reject the recommendations in their entirety.

- If accepted, Congress has 45 legislative days to pass a joint resolution to block the closures. If no vote is taken, the list automatically is approved. If Congress rejects the list, the president could veto their action.

- If rejected by the President, the list goes back to the commission, which must submit its revised list to the President by Oct. 20.

**Nov. 7:** The President must approve the revised list or the process ends. If he OKs the list, Congress has another 45 legislative days to act on it.

Once the list becomes law, bases have two years to start closing and six years to finish.

## BRAC Regional Hearing

The Base Realignment and Closure Commission will hold a regional meeting June 17, 2005 at 8:30 a.m. The location is:

Federal Plaza  
911 North East 11th Avenue  
Portland, Oregon 97232  
1st Floor Auditorium

The meeting will provide an opportunity for public input on the current BRAC recommendations for the 939th Air Refueling Wing and Portland Air National Guard Base.

## Websites

Air Force Reserve BRAC website: <http://www.afrc.af.mil/BRAC-FAQs.htm>

Air Force BRAC website: <http://www.issues.af.mil/brac.htm>

Defense Department: <http://www.defenselink.mil/brac>

BRAC Commission: <http://www.brac.gov>

Sen. Gordon Smith: <http://www.senate.gov/~gsmith/webform.htm>

Sen. Ron Wyden: <http://wyden.senate.gov/contact>

Cong. Earl Blumenauer: <http://blumenauer.house.gov/about/Contact.shtml>

## Other Information on realignment and closure

### ❑ Questions, concerns, etc:

Members of the 939th can get more information on the BRAC process and its impact locally through the 939th Air Refueling Wing's Intranet web site. In addition, the Air Force has set up a toll-free telephone number (888-473-6120) for military and civilian members affected by the BRAC.

❑ **The criteria:** Military value must be the primary consideration in reducing or restructuring U.S. military bases. Military value is reflected in the first four selection criteria and includes the current and future capabilities needed and the impact on operational readiness of a post, base, range or installation. Military value also includes a "surge capability" that allows the department to accommodate mobilization. Finally, military value includes the cost of operations and manpower implications

❑ **Cost savings:** The four previous rounds of BRAC produced net savings (cost avoidance) of approximately \$16.7 billion through 2001 and approximately \$6.5 billion annually thereafter. Independent studies have verified that savings from BRAC far exceeded costs.

❑ **Military construction:** The presence or absence of funding for military construction is not an indication of military service intentions or future recommendations to the Secretary of Defense under BRAC. The Defense Department funds its military construction based on its current highest priority requirements recognizing that it may make investments in installations that are ultimately selected for closure or realignment.

❑ **Today's threat:** The closure and realignment actions will enable the military to adapt to changes in the world environment. To become more effective in the war on terror, the military must make adjustments to a Cold War basing infrastructure.

❑ **Balancing act:** The recommendations balance airpower among active duty, Air National Guard and Air Force Reserve components. The joining of Reserve and Guard Airmen alongside active duty members strengthens an important relationship in the Air Force's warfighting capability.

❑ **Adding bases:** Commissioners can add military installations to the BRAC list provided the Secretary of

Defense is given an opportunity to justify their decision to omit the base previously. Also, seven of the nine commissioners must approve any additions to the closure and realignment list.

### ❑ BRAC and deployments:

The AF will continue to use forces assigned to installations identified for closure/realignment if the forces are postured as ready and available. Major commands and units owning those forces control posturing status. As units get closer to being realigned, the command will show those units as "not available" for tasking. Once the forces are in place and ready at their new location, the command will again posture the forces for rotation into the AEF schedule.

### ❑ Options for reservists:

Upon approval of the proposal, Reserve personnel experts will begin working with units impacted to discuss possibilities for reservists. It is still too early in the BRAC process for programs to be approved or put in place. The objective is to provide every Reservist and civilian an opportunity to continue to serve the country. (*Information compiled by the 939th Public Affairs Office*)

# Summer — a season to exercise off-duty safety

by Lt. Gen. John A. Bradley  
*Commander, Air Force Reserve  
Command*

**WASHINGTON**—“There are no second acts in American lives,” F. Scott Fitzgerald once wrote. Memorial Day Weekend signals the start of summer, traditionally a time of fun and sun.

During the 101 Critical Days of Summer, we sometimes try to do too much because of the extra sunlight. Here are suggestions on how to keep healthy and safe this summer.

**Alcohol consumption** – Don’t drink and operate vehicles – automobiles, boats, jet skis, etc. If you drink, do it moderately and appoint a designated driver.

**Watercraft** – Know your craft and use personal flotation devices.

Use caution when operating boats and jet skis, staying away from other boaters, swimmers and jet skiers.

**Traveling** – Be sober, vigilant and well rested. Ensure everyone wears a seatbelt.

**Motorcycles and All-Terrain Vehicles** – don’t operate without proper training and personal protective equipment. Always remain vigilant and drive defensively.

**Outdoor activities** – Before and after athletic activity, take a short, moderate-to-brisk walk to improve circulation rather than stretching, which experts say contributes to muscle strain. Know your limits and don’t overdo it. Avoid prolonged exposure to the sun, use sunscreens and drink plenty of water.

**Swimming** – Swim with a buddy in known waters and don’t drink.

In the past few years, we’ve been made more aware of the need for diligent force protection. We need to apply this same kind of vigilance off duty during the 101 Critical Days of Summer.

Most mishaps involve one or more of the following factors: alcohol, fatigue, darkness, bad weather, poor judgment, inappropriate risk-taking.

Let’s use common sense, plan ahead and be prepared. An “it will never happen to me” attitude is not a guarantee but rather a recipe for disaster.

Take care of your family and your Air Force Reserve family. Be alert and prevent incidents that could cause a lifetime of regrets.

Let’s all enjoy the months of summer, but let’s enjoy our off-duty time responsibly. (*AFRC News Service*).

## 939th Mission Support Squadron

## Education & Training Office

### Testing Hours

CDC & PME

EVERY THURSDAY  
8 a.m. & 1 p.m.

FRIDAY BEFORE  
THE “A” DRILL WEEKEND  
1 p.m.

SUNDAY OF  
THE “A” DRILL WEEKEND  
8 a.m. & 1 p.m.

BLDG. 370

## Hail to the chief! —————



Photo by Maj. James R. Wilson

*The 304th Rescue Squadron's newest chief master sergeant, Rich Konopka, gets details on training objectives for the May Unit Training Assembly while also guarding “the jeep.” In keeping with military tradition for newly promoted chief master sergeants, Chief Konopka must safeguard the jeep for a minimum of one month and a maximum of three months. Congratulations chief. Don't lose the jeep!*

# 939th members return from AEF deployment

## Portland reservists arrive home, declare mission in Turkey a success

By Maj. James R. Wilson  
939th ARW Public Affairs Office

Two KC-135s carrying 42 members of the 939th Air Refueling Wing returned to Portland April 30 signifying the completion of another overseas contingency operation.

The group served at Incirlik Air Base, Turkey as part of an Air Expeditionary Force deployment tasked with air refueling operations for U.S. Air Force and allied aircraft. The Oregon-based KC-135s, used as part of Operation Enduring Freedom, enhanced the reach of combat aircraft while flying over hot spots themselves along the way.

For at least two members, the deployment was both challenging and rewarding—an endorsement of the preparation that took place before members departed.

“It was really smooth,” said Master Sgt. April Wells, a KC-135 crew chief assigned to the 939th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron. “The workload was steady but never more than we could handle. As with most [temporary duty assignments], it gave me a chance to really get to know the people I work with and really learn about the job.”

Sergeant Wells’ perspective on the workload was a reference to the supporting role the 939th played during the contingency. As part of the AEF construct, the lead units were the 184th ARW, an Air National Guard unit assigned to McConnell Air Force Base, Kansas and the 100th ARW at Royal Air Force Mildenhall, England.

Although it has no permanently assigned U.S. aircraft, Incirlik AB is one of the Air Force’s key bases for protecting U.S. interests overseas. Instead, groups like the one from the 939th rotate in and out of the base for contingency operations.

Sergeant Wells, having deployed four times previously, said the host unit is typically responsible for a majority of the functions needed for day-to-day maintenance operations. Supporting units are integrated where needed adding a robust flying capability for combatant commanders.

“You have to rely on other units more when you deploy in a supporting role,” said Sergeant Wells. “I thought we worked well with the Guard and active duty. [The Portland crew chiefs] covered for them when they

***“It doesn’t matter how old you are or how often you’ve deployed, it’s never easy when you have to leave your family.”***

**Tech. Sgt. Robert Emmons**



Photo by Maj. James R. Wilson

*Master Sgt. Brian Kamahoahoa, a hydrolics specialist with the 939th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, exits a KC-135 aircraft upon returning to Portland. Sergeant Kamahoahoa was one of 42 reservists who returned home from a deployment to Turkey in late April.*

needed time off, and they did the same for us.”

On some days, members worked 12-hour shifts to ensure the mission was accomplished. But when the work was done, they were given opportunities to take in the Turkish sites and attractions.

“The trips are memorable,” Tech. Sgt. Robert Emmons, 939th AMXS, said. “The food, [the Mediterranean Sea]—I’ll never forget it. Those who deploy to Incirlik in the future have to go downtown. Once they get outside the base, I think they’ll really appreciate the beauty of Turkey.”

Sergeant Emmons and Sergeant Wells were grateful for the experience and the position their civilian employers have concerning Reserve participation.

“I work at Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railway,” said Sergeant Emmons. “They take really good care of employees who have obligations to the military. They used to make up the difference between your military and civilian pay when mobilized for up to two weeks. Now, they [provide the benefit] as long as you’re deployed.”

Sergeant Mills, who works for the Clark County Sheriff’s Department, said her employer was equally supportive.

Participation in the AEF does come at a cost. The cost comes in the form of time away from loved ones.

“It doesn’t matter how old you are or how often you’ve deployed, it’s never easy to leave your family,” said Sergeant Emmons. “Like with every deployment, the best part was coming home to my family. There was no better feeling than to see my wife and kids when I got home.”

## NEWS

### Family Day

The 939th Air Refueling Wing's Family Appreciation Day will be held Sept. 10, 2005. This is a great time to bring your families and have an afternoon of fun and games for all. Plans are already underway to ensure everything is in place for this fun and enjoyable day.

Those interested in serving on the planning committee or who are willing to volunteer their time to help with the event can call Lt. Col. Dana Difford at 335-4690.

### Legal assistance

Reservists are entitled to legal advice on civil matters like Service Member's Civil Relief Act issues, leases, probate, divorce, and custody among others. The 939th Legal Office also prepares many documents on the member's behalf such as wills, powers of attorney and affidavits. In addition, members and their dependents are entitled to free notary service anytime.

For more information, contact the 939th Legal Office at 335-4610.

### AMC commander to retire

Gen. John Handy, commander of U.S. Transportation Command and Air Mobility Command, is slated to retire Oct. 1 according to Air Force officials.

General Handy will retire with more than 37 years of service to the Air Force. The general took command of AMC in November 2001. He is a command pilot with more than 5,000 hours in aircraft including the C-130, C-141, C-17, C-7A, C-9, C-37 and KC-10.

A change of command ceremony will be announced at a later date. The general's replacement has not yet been named.

### Earn more \$\$ while deployed

The U.S. government is offering any service member serving in a designated combat zone, qualified hazardous duty area, or directly supporting a combat zone, an opportunity to participate in a savings program that is free, guaranteed and fully backed by the U.S. government.

Whether active duty, Reserve or National Guard, service members are eligible to contribute up to \$10,000 to a no-risk, no-fee program that pays 10 percent annual interest, compounded quarterly. Moreover, they can leave funds in the program for up to 90 days after redeployment, and the account will continue to draw interest. For more information, read the Air Force Print News story at <http://www.af.mil/news/story.asp?storyID=123010411>.

### Under construction

Due to construction at Bldg. 142 (Dining Facility), meals will be served from Bldg. 175 (Columbia Point Con-

solidated Club) during the May, June and July Unit Training Assemblies. The hours for the June UTA are: 6:15 - 7 a.m. (breakfast) and 11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. (lunch). Meals will be posted on the wing web page as usual.

Contact Master Sgt. Daniel Beshears at 335-4826 with specific questions or concerns.

### Best in the business

Please congratulate Master Sgt. Roger Berube, 939th Logistics Readiness Squadron, on his selection as the Air Force Reserve Command's Fuel's Senior Noncommissioned Officer of the Year.

Send your congratulations via e-mail to [roger.berube@portland.af.mil](mailto:roger.berube@portland.af.mil).

### More construction

Construction has begun on the new Consolidated Training Facility (Phase II). This new 16,150 square foot facility will be built between Bldgs 300 and 304, and will connect to CTF Phase I (the new Command Post). All parties that park in the new Personally Owned Vehicle lot south of Bldg 300 must clear that lot for the next 360 days, as this personally operated vehicle lot will belong to the contractor as a materials staging area. The only exception will be two handicap parking positions that will remain open in this POV lot for the entire construction period.

Expect to see fencing, building materials, delivery vehicles and related machinery throughout the construction site in the next days, and please employ an extra measure of safety and patience in the process.

Please call Mr. Tom Snoberger, 939th Civil Engineer Squadron at 335-4934 for more information.

### Point credit

The Air Reserve Personnel Center in Denver no longer mails Air Force Form 526, Air Force Reserve Point Credit Summary to reservists. Members of the 939th ARW can still receive this product through the virtual Military Personnel Flight (<https://www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/vs>).

Questions or concerns about credit of points can be directed to the Air Reserve Personnel Center at (800) 525-0102.

### WWII veterans to be honored

The Vancouver National Historic Reserve Trust is sponsoring a number of events in recognition of the 60th Anniversary of World War II Aug. 26-28.

The theme is "To Honor Those Who Served." Some of the scheduled events include a vintage aircraft fly-in at Pearson Air Museum, USO style hangar dance, fireworks finale from a barge on the Columbia River, and a mess style



pancake breakfast with spam. There are dozens of other activities planned.

An official Department of Defense 60th Anniversary World War II Commemoration ceremony will take place on Aug. 28.

The sponsoring agency has invited members of the 939th to be a part of the planning committee. For more information, visit the website at <http://www.americassalute.org>. Members can volunteer by calling (360) 992-1825.

## Airman handbook

The inaugural edition of the Airman handbook is now available at <http://www.airman.af.mil/pdfs/pdfs.htm>. The handbook is designed to help new Airmen understand the Air Force, its culture, core values and heritage.

## True Blue

Air Force Reserve Command launched its commandwide "True Blue" anti-drug campaign in April. In the past, anti-drug or anti-substance abuse efforts were negative and centered on disciplinary action, said Dr. Don Jenrette, the command's drug demand reduction program coordinator. The new True Blue initiative promotes healthy living, career mindsets and career role models.

The focus of the AFRC Drug Demand reduction Program is enhancing readiness by eliminating substance abuse through prevention, education community outreach and drug testing.

## New arrival

Chief Master Sgt. Loren Chapman, 939th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron superintendent, presented Tech. Sgt. Roger Smith with a baby basket in recognition of his new daughter's arrival.

Sergeant Smith, who works as a quality assurance inspector for the 939th Maintenance Group, and his wife Mele are the proud new parents of daughter Abigail Emma. Abigail was born March 27.

## Space Camp

Tech. Sgt. John Garrelts and his wife Joni recently learned their daughter was selected to be a participant at the Air Force Space Camp later this summer. Only 64 kids nationwide were selected to attend the camp which will be held from July 31 until Aug. 5 in Huntsville, Ala. The Garrelts are quite proud of their daughter.

If you'd like to congratulate them, their e-mail address is: [sonjaarchr@aol.com](mailto:sonjaarchr@aol.com).

## Good times...good memories



*[Left] Chief Master Sgt. Scott Smith, 939th Operations Group, offers his thanks and best wishes to Col. Ken Lewis recently. Colonel Lewis departed the wing in May to become the operations group commander for the 349th Air Mobility Wing at Travis Air Force Base, Calif. Colonel Lewis joined the 939th Air Refueling Wing in May 2002. His most recent job was 939th Operations Group commander. (Photo by Lt. Col. Dana Difford)*

## Awareness a big part of safety program

by Michael J. Clark  
939th ARW Safety Office

Do you know the name of your wing safety manager? Do you know the Unit Safety Representatives in your squadron? Where are the safety boards in your workcenter? What would you do if injured on duty or during a Unit Training Assembly? What are the procedures for reporting a hazard at work?

Everyone who works at this wing should know the answers to these questions. If you don't, get with your supervisor and get the answers.

You can also find a wealth of information on local safety programs via the 939th website. Among other information, you can find out who your Safety Manager is and the name of your USRs. The 939th ARW Safety Orientation Pamphlet available on the website can answer the rest of these questions.

All of us are responsible for mitigating risks in our jobs and should know how to respond quickly when a safety mishap occurs. I encourage each of you to use risk management in all you do at the base and home. Be safe, and be aware.

# CONGRATULATIONS

## Civilian

### Welcome

Melissa Adams	939th MDS
Duran Dagget	939th OSF
Brian Durbin	939th AMXS
Ricardo Guevara	939th OSF
Michael Kinman	939th MXS
Michael Mirarchi	939th MXS
Shawn Modjtabei	939th CP
Richard Wallace	939th CF
Ruby Zarzyczny	939th PA

### Awards

Kevin Cole	939th AMXS
Delmonico, Derric	939th AMXS
Scott Goodgion	939th MXS
Joseph Hannon	939th AMXS
James Mattingly	939th MXS
David Nelson	939th AMXS
Bradley Plancich	939th MXS
Paul Potwora	939th MXG
Richard Slater	939th AMXS

### Promotions

Milly Bui	939th MSS
Holly Sturdavant	939th MSS

## Military

### Welcome

Maj. James Wilson	939th PA
Capt. Mark Villacis	64th ARS
Tech. Sgt. Harold Ward	939th AMXS
Airman David Brydon	939th AMXS

### Technical Sergeant (cont'd)

Donald Owen	83rd APS
Randy Pantell	83rd APS
Patrick Peralta	939 ARW
Krisztian Vegvari	83rd APS

### Promotions

#### Senior Master Sergeant

George Chernishov	939th AMXS
Keith Barber	939th AMXS

#### Staff Sergeant

Donald Argo	939th AMXS
Sara Beldin	939th OSF
Michael Blessing, Jr.	939th AMXS
Joshua Brown	83rd APS
Ryan Congdon	939th AMXS
Geoffrey Corey	939th AMXS
Penne Ferris	83rd APS
Trenda Forcht	83rd APS
Michael Gonzalez	939th AMXS
Matthew Jenkins	83rd APS
Nicole McInturff	939th CF
Matthew Stark	939th AMXS
Sarah Temple	83rd APS
Erich VanKirk	939th CES

#### Master Sergeant

Ian Bradford	939th CES
Theresa Claiborne	939th FM
Duane England	83rd APS
James Gross	939th MXS
Cari Lennon	939th MDS
Howard Miller, III	83rd APS
Craig Pfister	83rd APS
Michael Vanzanten	939th MDS
Steven Watson	939th CES
Russell Wiseman	83rd APS

#### Technical Sergeant

Michelle Bourret	83rd APS
Terry Dunn	83rd APS
Heath Conrad	939th MSS
William Koenig	939th AMXS
Chester Oleary	939th OSF

#### Senior Airman

Kyle Alley	939th CF
Ryan Cameron	83rd APS
Sean Darst	939th MXS
Alynn Jones	939th MSS

Justin Hall	939th CES
Jennifer Linn	939th SVF
Robert Mayner	939th AMXS
Roland Michael Mercier	939th CES
Leslie Montgomery	83rd APS
Frank Ritchey	939th AMXS
Aaron Schackart	83rd APS
Shawn Shultz	939th MSS
Bernard Untalan	939th LRS
Adam Shepard	939th MDS
Ryan Stroup	939th AMXS
Ashley Vanegas	939th MDS

### **Awards**

#### **Meritorious Service Medal**

Lt. Col. Steve Franklin	939th OG
Lt. Col. James Holloway, Jr.	939th OSF
Maj. Douglas Tang	939th OSF
Chief Master Sgt. Robert Davis	939th CES
Senior Master Sgt. John Hollingsworth	939th MXG

#### **Commendation Medal**

Capt. Charles Knapp	939th MSG
Master Sgt. Klaus Bernkopf	939th OG
Master Sgt. Linda McNeal	939th OG
Master Sgt. Jay Wright	83rd APS
Tech. Sgt. Jerry Bailey	83rd APS
Tech. Sgt. John Brownfield	939th MSG
Tech. Sgt. Gilbert Howell	939th SVF
Tech. Sgt. Terry Sevey	83rd APS

#### **Achievement Medal**

Master Sgt. Karen Carter	939th MSG
Tech. Sgt. Robert Lane	939th MSG
Staff Sgt. Patrick Mills	83rd APS
Staff Sgt. Christa Abbott	939th MSG
Senior Airman Jeremiah Thompson	939th MSG
Senior Airman Jane Dalglish	939th MSG
Senior Airman Kevin Sivertson	939th MSS

### **Kudos**

Congratulations to Senior Master Sgt. Brian Alley, 939th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron.

Sergeant Alley re-enlisted for the last time this month. After this enlistment, Sergeant Alley will have 33 years of service to his credit.

Well done Senior Master Sgt. Alley!

## **In Memorium**

### **David A. Stover**

Master Sgt. David Allen Stover, 939th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, died 12:03 p.m. May 14 in Bartlesville, Okla. Memorial Services were held May 18 in the Walker-Brown Chapel with Dr. John Snook officiating. Military rites will be performed by the American Legion Post #105 ceremonial detail. Sergeant Stover was born April 21, 1955 in Columbus, Ohio, to Samuel Clifton and Barbara Jean (Ziegler) Stover. He served his country in the United States Air Force during the Vietnam Era and then as a Reservist during the Desert Storm operation.

Sergeant Stover received his degree in Engineering from Northeastern State University in Tahlequah, Oklahoma. He married Debra Sue Jackson August 6, 1976 in Wichita, Kansas. He always had a smile for everyone and he never met a stranger.

He is survived by his wife Debra, two daughters, Barbara Jean, and Bonnie Jane Stover, one son, Benjamin Jackson Stover, father and step mother, Samuel and Adele Stover of La Canada, Calif., two brothers, Scott Edward Stover of Anaheim, Calif., and Kenneth Lee Stover of Mission Viejo, Calif., Father-in-Law, Johnny Andrew Jackson of Wichita, Kan., and brother-in-law, Ronny Wade Jackson also of Wichita.

He was preceded in death by two daughters, Emily and Erin Stover and his mother Barbara Jean (Ziegler) Stover.

### **Gus E. Swartz**

Tech. Sgt. Gus E. Swartz of Vancouver, Wash., passed away on April 9, 2005. He was born on Dec. 4, 1968, in Helena to Ernest E. & Nannette M. (Radley) Swartz. He enjoyed skiing, camping and spending time with his family. He is survived by his wife, Regina; daughters, Cassie and Kerianne; son, Edward Swartz; parents, Ernie and Nannette Swartz; and sister, List Swartz.

He was preceded in death by a brother, Edward Swartz, in 1992. Services were held in Vancouver on Friday, April 15, 2005. Military honors were provided by the Lewis and Clark Veterans Council.

**GONE BUT NOT FORGOTTEN**

## Civil engineers help build new structure at Ft. Vancouver

The 939th Civil Engineer Squadron partnered with the local 715 Carpenters Union, the Boy Scouts, and the City of Vancouver to build a new gazebo at the Historic Fort Vancouver Barracks.

The joint construction project also required coordination with the Army, Pearson Air Museum, National Park Service, and KPS (property managers at Officers Row). Over 300 volunteer hours were put in by the various teams at a labor cost savings of over \$10,000 to the City of Vancouver.

The 939th CES performed the overall construction management of the project in conjunction with CoV-Construction Services.

Gabe Washburn, a local youth who is working on obtaining his Eagle Scout, was responsible for the coordination and work for the Carpenters Union and the Boy Scouts. To obtain his Eagle Scout one of the requirements is to complete a humanitarian or volunteer project before his 18th birthday.

The project, which was started in September, took six months to complete.

City officials made the initial street cuts and poured the curb around the foundation.

The 939th CES, Boy Scouts and Local 715 Carpenters all worked together placing the footings, perimeter wall, and the flooring. The 939th CES also installed a sprinkler system, pillars, rafters, roof sheathing and electrical requirements.



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